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JOHN CHADWICK,

From England

M. S. McGuinn

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JOHN CHADWICK, from ENGLAND
(1760-1850)

In early American history, there were many John Chadwicks from England; and quite a few, like the subject of this sketch, came from Rochdale, or some part of northwestern England. They were classed as Lancashire men, as their ancestors seated there in the early part of the 15th century.

This particular John Chadwick was born in this region in 1760. Proof of this can be found on his tombstone in the old Ewing Family Burial Ground, atop a hill at Leach's, near Catlettsburg, Ky. The stone is still decipherable, and bears this inscription:

"John Chadwick
from England
(1760-1850)"

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The names of his parents have never been proved; but, we have reasons to believe that his father was also John Chadwick, and his mother, Bethunia Chadwick. Traditions state that our John Chadwick's father was either a son, or a nephew, of Sir Andrew Chadwick, of London fame during the reign of Queen Anne. Sir Andrew was born probably in Dublin, Ireland, circa 1676. But, John Oldfield Chadwick in his Life and History of Sir Andrew Chadwick, pub. by Chas. L. Woodward, 78 Nassau St., New York City, claimed that Sir Andrew Chadwick had no legitimate heirs, in spite of the fact that many have tried to establish kinship because of the reportedly vast holdings in Chancery left by Sir Andrew. To date, none have proved their descent from him to the satisfaction of the powers-that-be. It is altogether possible



and probable that John Chadwick's father was of blood kin to the cynical Sir Andrew who wrote in a codicil to his will of those "hungry Lancashire kites to whom I owe nothing either by ties of blood, gratitude, or natural affection"; and again,... "in the sum of five thousand pounds... that they do divide the same in proportionable shares to such persons of my kindred who shall appear and prove their degree of consanguinity." However, Sir Andrew's half-brother, Thomas, had a son, John, who married a Bethunia, and emigrated to America.

Also, down through family repétition has come the story of John Chadwick's father who, approximately 1763, brought his four sons from Lancashire, England, via Ireland, to New York City, thence to Pennsylvania where he lived for a short while before coming to the headwaters of the Yadkin River, Surry Co., N.C., according to A Genealogical History, by Col. Cadwallader Jones. No mention is made of any females; but, as they were often omitted in early records, there is no use to assume that none came along. There is a record of a John Chadwick and wife, Bethunia, having purchased 697 acres (the Perkins grant) on Linville Creek, Rowan Co., N.C., in 1768. (Surry Co. was cut off of Rowan Co.) Our John Chadwick family decided upon a farm on the headwaters of the South Fork of the Yadkin River, called Shallow Ford. There they built a substantial home, and settled. The sons were John, Joseph, Benjamin, and ?, probably Joshua.

When the Revolutionary War began, the Chadwick family, being recent Englishmen, and living out in that portion of North Carolina that was both thinly settled and rather remote from the fever and excitement, took no part. There is a record of a John Chadwick, of Rowan Co., N.C., having taken the Oath of Allegiance in 1771. This could easily be the father of our John Chadwick. In early 1781, when Tories, Indians, and English under the command of Tarleton came through this section of North Carolina, leaving a path of devastation among the prominent Whig homes, the Chadwick home was a victim. They say that Lord Cornwallis did not order this destruction, was very displeased with the unruly ones among his troops, and threatened to punish the offenders. Where the Chadwicks found shelter is not known; but, the father and the three oldest boys promptly enlisted. Later, the youngest boy, a lad of only 12, ran away and joined the American troops, serving as a drummer boy. Tradition states he was killed in battle.

Our John Chadwick served 18 months as a private in Capt. John Bruce's North Carolina Company. He participated in the Battle of Guilford Court House and several other skirmishes. He re-enlisted in July 1782, and served as an orderly sergeant in Capt. Bruce's Company. He was commissioned ensign in the fall of 1782 in the same company, and served five months. (All of this was taken from his military record.)

At the end of the war, in which the writer believes that John's father must have been killed, John wandered back to



the ashes of his old home. There, without shelter, clothes, or food, he indentured himself to John Allen, a landowner, for one and one-half years for board and keep. The indenture paper may be found on p.130, Book I, of Surry County (N.C.) Court Records. It was made the 17th of September, 1782, and signed in the presence of J.O. Williams, William Wallace, and George Kimbrough.

Later, we find that Joseph Chadwick also returned to Surry Co., N.C.; and the two brothers joined an expedition to settle the District of Kentucky. Col. Cadwallader Jones in his A Genealogical History states that they went with Daniel Boone; and, for a long time there was a tree on the Chadwick Kentucky farm with Daniel Boone's name carved thereon. Other sources say that they accompanied Isaac Shelby; and, we are told that the young woman whom John Chadwick later married was a cousin of Isaac Shelby. Also, he named one of his sons for Shelby. In either case, they must have spent some time exploring that grand old territory, for some records say they stayed for a while about the present Bellinger Green, and about Bourbon County. Next, we find Joseph Chadwick, with the characteristic Chadwick itching foot, wandering on to Missouri. He was last heard of in St. Joseph, the end of the trail at that time. There, the records of him seem to end.

In his 36th year, John Chadwick, having received a Kentucky land grant for his Revolutionary War services, decided to settle. He married on March 12, 1796, at Catlettsburg, Ky. (then in Greenup Co.), Keronhappuch Shortridge, a daughter of Col.

George and Margaret Muir Shortridge, also Kentucky pioneers, from the vicinity of Alexandria, Va. These Shortridges had lived about in early Kentucky forts; and were at this time, residents of a fort at the mouth of the Big Sandy Creek. Korenhappuch, their first-born, was reputedly the first white child born in the Kentucky territory.

John Chadwick built on his farm, which was about 3 miles from the limits of Catlettsburg, a log house of two very large rooms, connected by a breezeway. Their first child was born in 1797. Bible records give his name as Gerove; but, the writer firmly believes the name was George, and being copied from faded and almost undecipherable handwriting, was misconstrued as Gerove. The early Chadwicks were not schooled, and John Chadwick could not even write his own name. Another reason that we believe it was George was because of the almost unbreakable custom of those days of naming the first children for grandparents, and Korenhappuch's father was George. Too, the name, Gerove, had no precedence or repetition that we can locate. However, Gerove or George, lived less than a year. The next eleven children arrived thus: Hiram Thomas, 1799; Cynthia Ann, 1800; George Eli (or Edward), 1802; Eliza Margaret, 1804; Hanson Shortridge, 1807; John Madison, 1809; Sallie Melinda, 1811; Shelby Wayne, 1814; Jackson Napoloon, 1816; Alvin Menefee, 1818; and Adelaide Lucrotia, 1821.

John Chadwick became the first magistrate of Greenup Co. Ky. It must have been a much simpler job in those days, for

even his will was signed with his mark(x). In 1806, he decided to have his vast acreage surveyed. He secured the best surveyor in those parts, Hanson Newman; and, as was the custom in those days, he furnished board and lodging to Mr. Newman until the job was complete. Mr. Newman evidently became quite a favorite with the Chadwicks, both the elders and the four children who were then living, for when the next lusty son arrived, he was promptly named Hanson Shortridge Chadwick.

John Chadwick lost his wife in 1840. She was in her 61st year. She is buried beside him at the afore-mentioned Ewing Burial Ground. In the meantime, all the Chadwick children were married, and except for one, scattered. Sallie Melinda Chadwick Ewing with her husband (Col. John Joseph Ewing) and children (Fannie, Thomas J., John Alvin, William S., and Sallie Melinda), lived with her father in the old Chadwick home until her early demise, 1849.

Probably, John Chadwick became lonesome for companionship, or probably he knew that this delicate daughter had not long to live---anyway, on May 31, 1847, when he was 87 years old, he caused quite a stir in the family by taking unto himself a 2nd wife, Lucindra Bartram, in Greenup Co. This marriage seemed to be a business arrangement, and terminated on April 4, 1850, at his death. His will:

"I, John Chadwick, of Greenup Co. and State of Kentucky, do hereby make my last will and Testament in manner and form as following:

"That is to say, first I desire that the perishable property of my estate be immediately sold after my decease and out of the money arising therefrom all of my just debts and

Funeral expenses should be paid should the perishable part of my property prove insufficient for the above purposes then I desire that my Exocutor or Administrator hereafter named may sell my Houses and Lands lying in Groomup Co., Ky. and in any other County or state if any there be and out of the moneys arising therefrom pay and Satisfy Such of my debts as should remain unpaid out of the sales of the perishable property of my Estate.

"2nd After the payment of my debts and Funeral expenses I give my wife, Lucy Chadwick, the bed I now ly on and Bedstead with a sufficient quantity of Bed Clothes for Winter and Summer and for her to have agreeable to our marriage contract Also, One Hundred Dollars.

"3rd I desire all my lands and personal property both real and personal of my Estate with the exception of Ruben and Mary which are to have their freedom at my death; after my death to be sold and the money arising therefrom to be equally divided among my Children and Grandchildren with the exception of Jackson N. Chadwick, who has received his part of my Estate. But I bequeath to him five dollars and he is to have no more of my Estate.

"The Heirs of Hiram Chadwick, deceased, Cynthia Love, George E. Chadwick, the infant heirs of Alvin M. Chadwick, deceased, and Lucretia A. Carson, Margaret Erwin, Hanson S. Chadwick, the Heirs of Sallie M. Ewing and Shelby W. Chadwick. The Notes of hand and Cash after my death to go into the hands of my Administrator I appoint Daniel Love my Administrator, for my land to be advertised in Public Newspaper Six months previous to the sale and it is my wish that neither my Heirs Shall have possession of my lands previous to the Sale thereof and I do hereby revoke all other former wills and Testaments by me heretofore made.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and affixed my seal this 25th day of September One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty nine.

"Attest John C. Burks

Joseph Ewing his

"John x Chadwick"

(Will Book No. 4, p. 226)

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Hiram Thomas Chadwick (1799-1848) married Leah H. Richardson. Issue: Amolia, Karen Happuch, Lucretia Adelaide, Sarah Elizabeth, Mariah Margaret, Martha Frances, David Henson, John Jackson, and Hiram Thomas, Jr.

Cynthia Ann Chadwick (1800-1891) married Daniel Williams Love. Issue: Leah Margaret, John Allen, Charles Hanson, Thomas Jefferson, Sarah Virginia, Francis Marion, Washington LaFayette, Elizabeth Frances, William Ligon, Shelby Jackson, John Erwin, Leonidas Lewis, and Theodocius Alphonso.

George E. Chadwick (1802-after 1857) married Diadem Lockwood. Issue: Elizabeth, John Luther, William, Sarah, Margaret, Eliza, David A., Frances, Jackson, James Kermit, Thomas, Virginia Boone, and Taylor and Oliver (twins).

Eliza Margaret Chadwick (1804-1871) married Col. John Erwin.

Issue: Catharine, Margaret, Julia, John, and George.
Hanson Shortridge Chadwick(1807-1879) married Susan Drum.
Issue: John Drum, Agnes Kerren, Mary F., Hanson M., Anna A.,
Augusta, William Shortridge, Susan F., Kate E., Charles C.,
and Frank.

John Madison Chadwick(1809-1849, or before) married Fannie Eaton. We have heard that there was one little son, who evidently died young.

Shelby Wayne Chadwick(1814-1854) married Mary Ann Meredith.
Issue: William Henry, Shelby Wayne, Robert Alvin, and Edwin Shelby.

Jackson Napoleon Chadwick(1816-1898) married Mary Louise Croom. Issue: Eliza Tunstall, Bettie Kerren, Sallie, John Erwin, Mary, and Wiley Jackson. His 2nd wife was Louise J. Lusk. No issue.

Alvin Henefee Chadwick(1818-1846) married Elizabeth C. James.
Issue: Henry, Charles C., and Mary.

Adelaide Lucretia Chadwick(1821-1885) married Thomas Kelly Carson. Issue: Mary Pickens, John Richard, Porter King, Shelby Chadwick, James Gamble, Margaret Erwin, Fannie Jones, and Julia Adelaide.

John Crad Burks later became the first husband of Fannie Ewing, **eldest** daughter of Sallie Melinda Chadwick Ewing.

Col. Joseph Ewing evidently bought the old homestead at the public sale; then, later sold it to two real estate men who made a fortune by subdividing it.

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We believe the descendants of Benjamin Chadwick are still to be found in North Carolina.

